

Message Text

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 05591 021001Z

21 11
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
----- 120620
P 011400Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8796

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 5591

EXDIS

EYES ONLY FOR ASST SECY STOESSEL

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS: OVIP, BE, PFOR
SUB: VAN ELSLANDE OFFICIAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 192543

1. I CONSIDER STATE 192543 AS CONTRARY TO REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS OF GOB AND MY OWN ASSESSMENT. VAN ELSLANDE, WHO HAS NEVER BEEN TO U.S., STRONGLY EXPRESSED HIS WISH I WILL BE AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON. DAVIGNON PROFESSED HIMSELF DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED AT MY LIKELY ABSENCE. I HAVE DEVELOPED CORDIAL WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH BOTH, ESPECIALLY WITH THE LATTER. HENCE, REFTEL COMES UNCOMFORTABLY CLOSE TO LOWERING MY STANDING VIS-A-VIS GOB. FURTHERMORE, MY ABILITY TO FOLLOW UP ON VAN ELSLANDE'S WASHINGTON CONVERSATIONS WOULD BE GRIEVOUSLY DIMINISHED IF MY FAMILIARITY WITH SAID CONVERSATIONS WOULD BE SECOND HAND.

2.THEREFORE I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT MY SUBSTANTIVE OPPOSING VIEW STATED ABOVE BE GIVEN THE FULLEST CONSIDERATION.IF MY TRAVEL EXPENSE SHTULD PRESENT A PROBLEM, I WOULD BE GLAD TO BEAR IT, ESPECIALLY SINCE MY FORTHCOMING TRIP TO THE U.S. IS INDEED ALSO NECESSITATED BY PERSONAL AFFAIRS.

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3. I WOULD EXPECT TO ATTEND ONLY THOSE MEETINGS SET UP FOR VAN ELSLANDE, IN WHICH YOU DEEM MY PARTICIPATION APPROPRIATE.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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